

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated 10 November 2004, Applicant respectfully submits this amendment and remarks. Reconsideration and reevaluation of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

5 At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner makes certain objections to the drawings. Applicant herein submits revised Figs. 1B, 4B, and Figs. 19A and 19B as replacement sheets. Applicant has highlighted the changes made. Applicant respectfully submits that this objection has now been obviated.

10 With respect to the claim rejections, the Examiner rejected Claims 24, 30, 32, and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(b) as being anticipated by Retz (U.S. 4,501,327). Please note that Applicant has amended Claim 24 so that the outer tubular member has a series of spiral slots, and wherein the angle of the spiral slots is between 25 degrees and 45 degrees. Also, as fully set out in Claim 24, the claim now includes applying a second force to the outer tubular member in a second direction in order to subject the outer tubular member to a downward force. Please
15 note that no new matter has been added. For instance, please see page 26, lines 1 through 10 of the specification as well as Figs. 13, 14, and 15.

The Retz '327 patent teaches expanding a liner 66 and a well 76 with pressing elements at 54. Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claim 24 is now in a position for allowance.

20 Additionally, the Examiner rejected Claim 52 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Woolley (U.S. 3,706,342). Applicant has amended Claim 52 to include the limitations from Claim 53, namely, that the second anchor member has contained thereon a plurality of slots formed in a spiral pattern.

25 Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the remaining claims, namely Claims 1 through 27, 29 through 34, 36 through 52, and 54 through 56 are now in a position for allowance.

Please note that Claims 28, 35, and 53 have been canceled without prejudice nor disclaimer as to the subject matter contained therein. If it would aid in disposition of this matter, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned. Allowance at an early date is respectfully submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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